Celebrate grad students and their work!

This Thursday, at the Research Screech, 44 graduate students representing all engineering departments will give 90-second pitches on their research. This will be a fast-moving, high-energy event and I’d like to see McMurtry full of grad students (and faculty!)—everyone is invited. This is a great opportunity to make connections with researchers who may need your expertise, or perhaps have expertise that you may need in your research!

Undergrads: If you’re thinking about doing some research, this is a great way to find out what’s going on in the labs! The RCEL grad student committee has been working hard to make this event happen. RSVP by tomorrow so they can order enough food and drink: http://rcel.rice.edu/screech.

While I’m on the topic of 90-second pitches, there’s an undergraduate elevator pitch competition coming up in November with cash prizes. You need to register by October 12 to participate and participants will get coaching on how to do an effective pitch. This is a great opportunity to sharpen your presentation skills—and maybe win a little dough! See http://oedk.rice.edu/ep for more information and to register.

Seeing that big tent going up in front of Lovett Hall indicates that we’re fast approaching the big Centennial celebration. You don’t want to miss the School of Engineering reception on Friday, October 12. You’ll be able to look at engineering’s past through a photo exhibit and timeline and at its future through student posters. We’ll have food, drink and music, too, and another light entertainment. Sign up at https://engrice.wufoo.com/forms/rice-engineering-centennial-reception/.

Today’s the last day for ChBE undergraduates to sign up for lunch with me on Wednesday. There are only a couple of spots left, so RSVP at https://engrice.wufoo.com/forms/dining-with-the-dean-chbe-undergrads/. We’ve started limiting the number of students at these luncheons because interactions are better in smaller groups. Graduate students should note that a couple of lunch sessions have been set up for this semester. For upcoming sessions, see the upcoming events calendar below.

Congratulations to Lydia Kavraki, professor of computer science, who will be one of four honorees at BioHouston’s 2012 lunch celebrating women in science. Lydia’s in good company, with the chancellor and president of UH, president of ExxonMobil Upstream Research and the
chair of cardiovascular medicine and director of the Division of Medical Genetics at the UT medical school. You can read more about Lydia’s honor at [http://engineering.rice.edu/kavraki/](http://engineering.rice.edu/kavraki/).

**TODAY**  
**CAAM**  
Josef Sifuentes, Texas A&M University  
“An Approximate Deflation Preconditioning Method Based on Multiple Grids for Wave Scattering Problems”  
3 p.m. in 1064 Duncan Hall  
[http://events.rice.edu/index.cfm?EventRecord=18247](http://events.rice.edu/index.cfm?EventRecord=18247)

Brian P. Hobbs, University of Texas MD Anderson Cancer Center  
“Adaptive Adjustment of the Randomization Ration Using Historical Control Data”  
4 p.m. in 1070 Duncan Hall  
[http://events.rice.edu/index.cfm?EventRecord=17790](http://events.rice.edu/index.cfm?EventRecord=17790)

**TUESDAY**  
**CEE**  
Terry Hazen, University of Tennessee Knoxville  
“The Deepwater Horizon Oil Spill: A Systems Biology Approach to an Ecological Disaster”  
3:45 p.m.  
[http://events.rice.edu/index.cfm?EventRecord=18760](http://events.rice.edu/index.cfm?EventRecord=18760)

**BIOE**  
Elebeoba E. May, University of Houston  
“Computational Systems Biology and the Dynamics of Pathogenesis”  
4 p.m. in 280 BRC  
[http://events.rice.edu/index.cfm?EventRecord=18760](http://events.rice.edu/index.cfm?EventRecord=18760)

**WEDNESDAY**  
**Dean of Engineering**  
Dining with the Dean: ChBE Undergrads  
Noon in 1049 Duncan Hall  
[http://events.rice.edu/index.cfm?EventRecord=18382](http://events.rice.edu/index.cfm?EventRecord=18382)

**MEMS**  
Leroy Chiao, NASA  
“Biomedical Problems During Spaceflight and Related Engineering Opportunities”  
4 p.m. in 128 Mechanical Engineering Building  
[http://events.rice.edu/index.cfm?EventRecord=18719](http://events.rice.edu/index.cfm?EventRecord=18719)

**THURSDAY**  
**ChBE**  
Shaoyi Jiang, University of Washington, Seattle  
Molecular Understanding, Design and Development of Ultra Low Fouling Zwitterionic-based Functional Materials  
2:30 p.m. in 212 Herzstein Hall  
[http://events.rice.edu/index.cfm?EventRecord=18719](http://events.rice.edu/index.cfm?EventRecord=18719)
ECE
Divyanshu Vats, Rice University
“Parameter-Free High-Dimensional Screening Using Multiple Grouping of Variables”
4 p.m. in 1064 Duncan Hall
http://events.rice.edu/index.cfm?EventRecord=18754

RCEL
Research SCREECH
5 p.m. McMurtry Auditorium, Duncan Hall
http://rcel.rice.edu/screech

FRIDAY
CEE
Michele Barbato, Louisiana State University
“A Multi-hazard Approach for Performance-based Hurricane Engineering”
3:45 p.m. in 201 Ryon Engineering Building
http://events.rice.edu/index.cfm?EventRecord=18739

These events are scheduled in the coming weeks:

Dining with the Dean for Undergraduates:
Oct. 24: CEE
RSVP by Monday, Oct. 22
Nov. 20: CAAM
RSVP by Friday, Nov. 16

Dining with the Dean for Graduate Students
Oct. 17: STAT PhD students
RSVP by Monday, Oct. 15
https://engrice.wufoo.com/forms/dining-with-the-dean-stat-phd-grad-students/
Nov. 6: MEMS PhD students
RSVP by Friday, Nov. 2
https://engrice.wufoo.com/forms/dining-with-the-dean-mems-phd-grad-students/

Wednesday, Oct. 10-Sunday, October 14
Rice University Centennial Celebration
http://events.rice.edu/index.cfm?EventRecord=18398

Wednesday, Oct. 10
Research Screech winners lunch with Dean Thomas

Friday, Oct. 12
REA Outstanding Alumni Presentations
http://events.rice.edu/index.cfm?EventRecord=18325
School of Engineering Centennial Reception
RSVP at https://engrice.wufoo.com/forms/rice-engineering-centennial-reception/

Monday, Oct. 15
ECE Distinguished Lecture
http://events.rice.edu/index.cfm?EventRecord=18766

Friday, Oct. 19
ChBE GSA Seminar Series “Future Energy and the Grand Challenges for Chemical Engineering”
http://events.rice.edu/index.cfm?EventRecord=18786

Tuesday, Oct. 23
“Self-Sensing Using Bio-Inspired and Multifunctional Thin Film Sensors”
http://events.rice.edu/index.cfm?EventRecord=18642

Friday, Nov. 2
CEVE Seminar Series: “Control of Inelastic Structures by Weakening and Damping”
http://events.rice.edu/index.cfm?EventRecord=18698

Thursday, Nov. 15
Undergraduate Elevator Pitch Competition
http://oedk.rice.edu/ep

Have a great week and take in the Screech!
Ned

Edwin L. Thomas
William and Stephanie Sick Dean of Engineering